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Confirmation Number: 2272

Examiner: Asghar Bilgrami

Art Unit: 2143

Title: Information Transfer Protocol System and Private Exchange

Application Number: 09/930,933

Inventor: Norman Ken Ouchi

February 13, 2006

Examiner Bilgrami

Examiner Scott Jarrett recommended that I review the claims for all my applications since the original claims would not meet the requirements for claims independent of prior art. Examiner Jarrett has not viewed these claims since his recommendation was based on claims I submitted for another application.

Please consider an amended SUMMARY, added figures, description of the figures, and new claims to replace the claims in the previous office action response of February 19, 2005. The discussion in the earlier response is still applicable. The amended SUMMARY, figures, and figure description do not add new matter but are to illustrate the invention better.

Claims 1-20 are cancelled. New Claims are grouped 21-29, 30-38, 39-40 where claims 21, 30, and 39 are independent claims.

Amended SUMMARY

A Business to Business (B2B) Protocol defines the transactions between business systems to automate processes including placing purchase orders, invoicing, and payments. The B2B Protocol defines business processes, the state behavior for each business process, and the messages. A Protocol system provides the state machine, data, and message formatting for processes such that a trading partner may participate in B2B transactions with another trading

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partner using the B2B Protocol without integration to the trading partner business system. The trading partner initially bridges between the Protocol system and the business system with manual processing in both systems. The Protocol system provides an integration capability. As a class of transactions is understood, the class can be selected in the Protocol system and integrated with the business system. Classes of B2B transactions are integrated quickly while more complex transactions are manually processed. Data storage and processing are in the Protocol system so that data need not be re-entered and the data in the Protocol system are consistent with the states of the business processes. In the Protocol system, the completion of a first process can initiate a second process.

Respectfully submitted



Norman Ken Ouchi